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# Statement by

Mr. Sackpaseuth Sisouk, Third Secretary,

Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations at the Third Committee of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Agenda item 66: Promotion and Protection on the Rights of Children

## Mr. Chairman,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Myanmar on behalf of ASEAN. However, I wish to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

## Mr. Chairman,

This year is crucial for the children around the world as the international community is celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 20 November 2019 with the aim to creating a momentum to further strengthen and renew commitment to promote and protect the rights of the child, in particular, for girls and children with disabilities to be free from discrimination, violence, and neglect, among others.

My delegation welcomes the High-level event of the General Assembly to commemorate the "Thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child" on 25 September 2019 in New York. For our part, the Lao Government together with relevant INGOs and CSOs also joined the international community to celebrate this important event by holding a consultative meeting on the promotion and protection of the rights of children in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on 26 September 2019.

## Mr. Chairman,

The Lao PDR attaches great importance to the development of children as they represent the future of our nation. The Government has pursued a consistent policy to promote the development of the child and protect their rights. The rights of the children are stipulated in the Constitution and the relevant legislation such as Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children (2006), Law on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Children (2014), and Law on Anti-Trafficking in Persons (2015). Furthermore, the Government is accelerating the implementation of the National Plan on Combating and Eradicating all Forms of Violence against Women and Children (2014-2020).

To protect the children from human trafficking, the National Committee on anti-human trafficking was set up in 2018. The Committee deals with all matters related to human trafficking. This includes, among others, developing national

database system on trafficking in person and setting up 1300 hotlines for reporting on this issue.

### Mr. Chairman,

At the regional level, the Lao PDR is actively participating in the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR).

At the international level, we are actively implementing the obligations under the Convention that the Lao PDR is a state party. Currently, the Government is in the process of preparing the report for the third UPR to address the matter of Human Rights Treaties body which we are party, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the Human Rights Council by early 2020.

## Mr. Chairman,

To conclude I would like to reiterate that the Lao Government is committed to building quality and a better life for our children. Through our efforts and support and assistance from the international community, progress has been made but challenges remain. Thus, we will continue to work closely with the international community to achieve our goals so that rights and interests of children promoted and protected.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.